Amendments to the Abstract:

Replace the Abstract with the following new Abstract:

Abstract of the Disclosure

The luminous area of a lighting apparatus 10, 110, 210 with a rectangular luminous area is made up <u>in</u> modular fashion from individual rectangular luminous modules 1. The basic set comprises a first luminous module 11 of a first size, a second luminous module 21 of a second size, a third luminous module 31, whose length corresponds to the length of the first luminous module 11 and whose width corresponds to the width of the second luminous module 21, and a fourth luminous module 41, whose length corresponds to the width of the first luminous module 11 and whose width corresponds to the length of the second luminous module 21. By combining the luminous modules it is possible to produce backlighting for a multiplicity of display sizes.